



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



The Aga Khan University Hospital

World Patient Safety Day Conference 2026

**Safe care for non-communicable diseases:
Safe care for life**



Programme

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

UNDERSTANDING THE BURDEN — PATIENT SAFETY, HEALTH SYSTEMS, AND THE COST OF UNSAFE NCD CARE

MASTER OF CEREMONY: Mildred Kesio — Manager, Informatics AKUH,N

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
7:30 am	Arrival & Registration
8:00 am	Welcome Address Prof. John Weru — Chief Medical Officer, AKUH,N
8:30 am	Case of the Day Dr. Muthoni Njuguna — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N
SESSION 1: UNDERSTANDING THE BURDEN OF UNSAFE NCD CARE	
MODERATOR: Dr. Beth Githambo — Senior Resident, Department of Medicine, AKUH,N	
8:50 am	The Double Burden: NCDs and the Hidden Epidemic of Patient Harm Dr. Victoria Kanyiri — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N
9:20 am	The Role and Impact of Primary Healthcare Models in Delivering Safe NCD Care: Lessons from High-Performing PHC Models Dr. Raoul Bermejo — NCD Technical Specialist, UNICEF Ruth Fella Kamar — Directorate of Primary Health Care, Ministry of Health
10:10 am	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A Session
10:30 am	Tea Break & Poster Walk
SESSION 2: UNDERSTANDING THE PATIENT JOURNEY AND HEALTH SYSTEM RESPONSE	
MODERATOR: Dr. Beth Githambo — Senior Resident, Department of Medicine, AKUH,N	
11:00 am	Walking the Patient Journey in NCD Care: Understanding Safety Failures, Equity Gaps, and Coordination Challenges Ms. Agnes Thuo — Quality Assurance Manager, MP Shah Hospital
OPENING CEREMONY	
MASTER OF CEREMONY: Gitonga M'Mbijjewee — Associate Vice Provost Administration, AKU	
11:30 am	Keynote Address: Advancing Safe Care for Non-Communicable Diseases: Strengthening Health Systems for Quality, Patient Safety, and the Path Forward Dr. Neema Rusibamayila Kimambo — World Health Organization Representative to Kenya

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
12:00 pm	Opening Ceremony Chief Guests: - Ambassador Amin Mawji, OBE-Diplomatic Representative of the Aga Khan Development Network - Ms. Mary Muthoni — Permanent Secretary, Public Health & Professional Standards, Ministry of Health - Hon. Aden Duale — Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health
1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
SESSION 3: THE HUMAN AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF UNSAFE NCD CARE MODERATOR: Christabel Wesonga — Nursing Director, MCH & AE, AKUH,N	
2:00 pm	The Patient Voice — Living Through the Gaps in NCD Care Patient
2:30 pm	The Price of Harm: The Economic and Human Cost of Unsafe NCD Care Dr. Elizabeth Wangia — Health Policy & Health Financing Specialist, World Bank Group
3:00 pm	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A Session
3:10 pm	Panel Discussion: Who Pays for Safety? Leadership, Financing, Capacity and Accountability in NCD Care Panel Moderator: Dr. Matiko Riro — Health Financing Expert, Co-founder & CEO, Savannah Global Health Institute Panelists: - Prof. John Weru — Chief Medical Officer, AKUH,N - Dr. Zeinab Gura — CEO, Kenyatta University Teaching, Research & Referral Hospital - Ms. Njeri Jomo — CEO & Principal Officer, Jubilee Medical Insurance - Dr. Mercy Mwangangi — CEO, Social Health Authority (SHA) - Dr. Kanyenje Gakombe — CEO & Founder, Metropolitan Hospital; Chairman, Kenya Healthcare Federation & Director, Kenya Private Sector Alliance - Dr. Caleb Mike Mulongo — Health Financing Lead, Tunu Consulting Hub
4:10 pm	Q&A Session
4:30 pm	Daily Synthesis & Closing Reflection Dr. Muthoni Njuguna — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N

DAY 2 - THURSDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

**ADVANCING SAFER CLINICAL CARE — DIAGNOSTIC EXCELLENCE,
MEDICATION SAFETY, AND RELIABLE NCD SYSTEMS**

TRACK A: DIAGNOSTIC EXCELLENCE & RELIABLE CLINICAL CARE

MASTER OF CEREMONY: Roseanne Nyabera-Manager, Cathlab AKUH,N

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
7:30 am	Arrival & Registration
8:00 am	Recap of Day 1
8:10 am	Case of the Day (highlighting missed diagnosis) Teresia Jitwa — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N

SESSION 4A: BUILDING RELIABLE DIAGNOSTIC SYSTEMS

MODERATOR: Dr. Rhoda Kalondu — Head of Patient Safety Unit, Kenyatta National Hospital

8:30 am	Getting Ahead of Harm: Prevention, Screening, and Community Engagement in NCD Care Deborah Kioko - Project Coordinator, AMREF Health Africa
9:00 am	From Variation to Reliability: The Role of Evidence-Based Guidelines in Safe NCD Care Dr. Njeri Karianjahi — Consultant Pediatrician & Adolescent Medicine Specialist, AKUH,N
9:40 am	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A Session
10:00 am	Tea Break & Poster Walk

PANEL DISCUSSION: REDUCING DIAGNOSTIC ERRORS

MODERATOR: Dr. Olga Nyamor — Quality Assurance Manager, Kenyatta University Teaching, Research & Referral Hospital (KUTRRH)

10:30 am	Panel Discussion: Reducing Diagnostic Errors — From Missed Diagnosis to Diagnostic Excellence: Case-Based Learning from the CCPC AMI and Stroke, CCPC NMBC Programs at AKU Hospital • Dr. Jeilan Mohammed — Program Lead, CCPC AMI, AKUH,N • Alice Ngugi — Program Secretary, CCPC Stroke, AKUH,N • Dr. Grace Muthoni — Emergency Medicine Specialist & Physician Manager, Accident & Emergency, AKUH,N • Dr. Rose Ndumia — Consultant Breast Radiologist, AKUH,N
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TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
11:20 am	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A Session
SESSION 5A: STRENGTHENING DIAGNOSTIC EXCELLENCE	
MODERATOR: Dr. Angela Ongewe — Consultant Cardio-thoracic Anaesthesiologist & Country Representative, CANENSCA	
11:30 am	Learning from the AKUH,N Tumor Board: Multidisciplinary Team Meetings for Diagnostic Excellence in Complex NCD Care Dr. Angela Waweru — Consultant Radiation Oncologist & Vice Chair, Department of Hemato-Oncology, AKUH,N
12:00 pm	Strengthening Diagnostic Safety through Laboratory Excellence Reducing diagnostic errors through quality laboratory services Prof. Shaheen Sayed — Consultant Pathologist & Chair, Department of Pathology, AKUH,N
12:45 pm	Joint Q&A Session
1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
SESSION 6A: ADVANCING DIAGNOSTIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION, DIGITAL HEALTH AND AI	
MODERATOR: Dr. Angela Ongewe-Consultant Cardio-thoracic Anaesthesiologist & Country Representative, CANENSCA	
2:00 pm	Research Presentations • Patient Navigation as a Patient Safety Strategy for Safe Breast Cancer Care • Enabled Automated Order Sets to Improve Multidisciplinary Stroke Care: A Quality Improvement Initiative • Implementation of a specialized pulmonary hypertension clinic in a tertiary hospital in Nairobi, Kenya
2:30 pm	Diagnostic Excellence in Diabetes Care: From Early Detection to Reliable Long-term Management Dr. Nancy Ngugi — Program Director, Diabetes Management and Information Center
3:00 pm	Audience Q&A

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
3:20 pm	Panel Discussion: Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence for Diagnostic Excellence Moderator: Dr. Sarah Kiptiness — Consultant Family Physician, Clinical Innovation & Impact Consultant, Banda Health Panelists • Mercy Kipgeny — Product Designer, ThinkMD • Dr. Fred Mutisya — Medical Doctor & Chief AI Officer, Center for Health AI Research Innovation and Implementation (CHAIRII) • Dr. Aftaab Khamisa — Physician Informaticist, AKUH,N • Dr. Jeremiah Mumo — Director, Digital Health Agency
4:20 pm	Q&A Session
4:40 pm	Turning Learning into Action: Closing Reflections

DAY 2 - THURSDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

ADVANCING SAFER CLINICAL CARE — DIAGNOSTIC EXCELLENCE,
MEDICATION SAFETY, AND RELIABLE NCD SYSTEMS

TRACK B: SAFE TREATMENT, MEDICATION MANAGEMENT & CONTINUITY OF
CARE

MASTER OF CEREMONY: Rose Gikemi — Ag.Manager,Client Relations AKUH,N

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
7:30 am	Arrival & Registration
8:00 am	Recap of Day 1
8:15 am	Case of the Day (Learning from medication-related harm) Roy Okoth — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N
SESSION 4B: ENSURING SAFE ACCESS AND MEDICATION SAFETY Moderator: Dr. Tabitha Gichuru — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N	
8:30 am	Beyond Availability — Ensuring Safe, Equitable and Timely Access to Essential NCD Care Dr. Gladwell Gathecha — Head, Division of Cancer & NCD, Ministry of Health
9:00 am	From Prescription to Protection: Ensuring Safe Medication Use Across the Continuum of Care Pharmacy & Poisons Board
9:30 am	Joint Panel Discussion / Audience Q&A Session
10:00 am	Tea Break & Exhibition Walk
SESSION 5B: MANAGING HIGH-RISK NCD CARE — FROM PREVENTION TO CLINICAL LEARNING Moderator: Esther Gimoi — Senior Manager, Risk Management, AKU	
10:30 am	High-Risk Therapies in NCD Care: Building Safer Systems for Complex Treatments Dr. Bindi Tank — Chief Pharmacist, AKUH,N
11:20 am	Recognizing and Managing Acute Deterioration in Patients with Chronic Diseases Lucy Adhiambo — Director, Quality Services Kenya, AKHS & Head of Nursing Practice, Aga Khan Kisumu

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
12:00 pm	Learning from High-Risk NCD Care: Case Studies in Patient Safety Dr. Mairaj Shah — Chief Quality & Patient Safety Officer, AKU Hospital (AKUH), Karachi & the French Medical Institute for Children (FMIC), Kabul
12:40 pm	Moderated Panel Discussion / Audience Q&A
1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
SESSION 6B: SAFE, COORDINATED AND PATIENT-CENTERED NCD CARE ACROSS THE CONTINUUM MODERATOR: Sairabanu Mohamedrashid Sokwalla — Consultant Physician, Endocrinologist & Program Director, Department of Medicine, AKUH,N	
2:00 pm	Research Presentations - Optimizing Barcode Medication Administration Following Electronic Health Record Implementation: A Medication Safety Improvement Project in the High Dependency Unit at Aga Khan University Hospital - Safe Care for Non-Communicable Diseases: A Systematic Review of Sickle Cell Disease Management in Primary Healthcare Settings in Ghana - A Patient-Centered Model for Diabetes Self-Management and Psychosocial Support in Kenya - The role of Integrated Palliative care in promoting safe care for noncommunicable disease in Transnzoia, Kenya
2:40 pm	Delivering Safe Ambulatory and Outpatient NCD Care Dr. Jacob Shabani — Chair, Department of Family Medicine, AKUH,N
3:10 pm	Lost in Transition? Strengthening Care Coordination for Safer NCD Care Dr. Greg Ganda — CEC Health, Kisumu County
3:50 pm	Partnering with Patients: Empowering Self-management for Safe NCD Care Mr. O'J Ogallo — Patient Safety Advocate / Healthcare Quality and Patient Engagement Leader, COFPAK (Confraternity of Patients Kenya)
4:20 pm	Q&A Session
4:40 pm	Turning Learning into Action: Closing Reflections Roy Okoth — Quality Advisor, AKUH,N

DAY 3 - FRIDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

PARTNERING FOR SAFETY: ENGAGING PATIENTS, STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS, SUSTAINING SAFE NCD CARE

MASTER OF CEREMONY: Soderlund Ochung — Manager, Informatics AKUH,N

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
7:30 am	Arrival & Registration
8:00 am	Recap of Day Two
8:10 am	Case of the Day: Preventing Harm Through Better Follow-up and Patient Engagement Dr. Victoria Kanyiri-Quality Advisor — AKUH,N

SESSION 7: INTEGRATED, PERSON-CENTERED MODELS FOR SAFE NCD CARE

MODERATOR: Dr. Grace Rwamba — Consultant Family Physician & Physician Manager, AKUH,N

8:30 am	Integrating Mental Health into Safe NCD Care • Dr. Mercy Karanja — Director, Mental Health, Ministry of Health • Dr. Catherine Gitau — Section Head, Psychiatry, Department of Medicine, AKUH,N
9:20 am	Managing Multimorbidity Safely — Building Integrated Models of Care Dr. Joy Mugambi — Director, Health Administration & Planning, Nakuru County & President, Kenya Association of Family Physicians (KAFP)
9:50 am	Moderated Discussion & Q&A Session
10:00 am	Tea Break & Poster Walk

SESSION 8: BUILDING HIGH-RELIABILITY HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR SAFE NCD CARE

MODERATOR: Ruthpearl Nganga-Co-Founder, ACQUIRE

10:30 am	Panel Discussion: Building High-Reliability NCD Systems: What Does Good Look Like? • Dr. Joan-Paula-Bor — Head of the National Cancer Program • Dr. Maureen Kimani — Head, Division of Community Health, Ministry of Health • Dr. Mary Amuyunzu Nyamongo — Founder Director & Technical Advisor, African Institute for Health and Development (AIHD) and Chair, NCD Alliance Kenya Board • Xu Hongyi — Technical Officer for NCDs, Multi-Country Assignment Teams, WHO Country Office Kenya
11:15 am	Q&A Session

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
SESSION 9: MEASURING, LEARNING AND IMPROVING NCD CARE	
MODERATOR: Dr. Colleen Araka-Quality Improvement Lead, Pumwani Maternity Hospital	
11:30 am	Measuring What Matters — Quality, Safety and Outcome Indicators in NCD Care Dr. Martin Musumbi — Director, Critical Care, AKUH,N
12:00 pm	Panel Discussion: Learning from Data — Building Learning Health Systems for Safe NCD Care • Dr. Victor Kibe — Head of NCD Division, Nairobi County • Dr. Salima Kanji — Senior Manager, AKUH,N • Prof. Wallace Bulimo — KEMRI • Dr. Muthoni Mwangi — Health Systems Scientist & Faculty, Department of Population Health, AKU
12:45 pm	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A Session
1:00 pm	Lunch & Networking
2:00 pm	Research Presentations: • Chained in Silence: System-Generated Disability and the Case for Integrated, Community Embedded Mental Health (ICEMH)Care • Enhancing Patient Safety for People Living with Non-Communicable Diseases through mPalCare: A Digital Health Innovation for Person-Centered Palliative Care in Uganda • Comparative Analysis of the Zero Sugar Behaviour Change Campaigns: 90-day (2024) vs 60-day (2025), Social Media Campaign, Uganda
SESSION 10: BUILDING CAPACITY AND SUSTAINING QUALITY FOR SAFE NCD CARE	
MODERATOR: Dr. Carolyne Mukuha-Center Director, World Learning-School for International Training, Kenya	
2:30 pm	Panel Discussion: Building Capacity for Safer NCD Care — Workforce, Leadership and Quality Improvement • Dr. Lydia Okutoyi — Director, Quality, Kenyatta National Hospital & Co-Founder, African Consortium for Quality Improvement Research in Frontline Healthcare (ACQUIRE) • Faith Muigai — Program Lead for the Africa Medical Equipment Facility and Quality Improvement Specialist with IFC • Mary Wambui — Chief Nursing Officer, Avenue Hospital • Susan Omondi — Quality Improvement Lead, Nairobi County
3:20 pm	Q&A Session

TIME	EVENT & PRESENTERS
SESSION 11: ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY STANDARDS – SUSTAINING SAFE NCD CARE	
MODERATOR: Oduor Otieno-Founder/PSQI Advisor, System Evaluation Ltd	
3:40 pm	Accreditation and Quality Standards: Sustaining Safe NCD Care • Dr. Boniface Mativa — Director, Quality, AKUH,N • Dr. Thomas Gachuki, Head, Division of Health Sector Monitoring & Quality Assurance, Ministry of Health • Millicent Olulo — Regional Director, Safe Care
4:30 pm	Q&A Session
4:50 pm	The Patient Safety Pledge: A Collective Commitment to Safer NCD Care Reflections on the conference’s key messages. A shared vision for the future of safe NCD care. Collective pledge by participants to champion patient safety within their organizations and health systems.
5:10 pm	Closing & Awards Ceremony Prof. John Weru — Chief Medical Officer, AKUH,N



For more information please contact:
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